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P-Leventhal, Albert R P-Taylor, FrankE

General Books At McGraw-Hill Get New Head

The McGraw-Hill Comtextbook giants announced yesterday a major reorganization designed to strengthen its trade book division, the name given to fiction and nonfiction books of general interest.

Albert R. Leventhal, who has a wide reputation for originating quality books in the social sciences, the arts and juvenile literature, will be in charge of the program. Since July, 1968, he has headed ahe American Heritage Publishing Company, which last year was acquired by McGraw-Hill.

At a meeting of McGraw-Hill's board of directors yesterday, Mr. Leventhal was elected corporate vice president for general books. He will also hold the title of general manager and editor. in chief of the trade-book division, succeeding Frank E. Taylor, who left the company two weeks ago to start his own publishing venture.

In addition, Mr. Leventhal will be responsible for the junior book division, whose general manager, Howard B. Graham, resigned recently to become president of Franklin Walts Inc., a publisher of juveniles owned by Grolier Inc. a

'A Wealth of Experience'

Dan Lacy, McGraw-Hill's senior vice president, who had been in charge of general books, will become director for editorial development of the company's overall publishing operations.

"This is a damned fortunate solution," Edward E. Booher, chairman of the board, said in an interview explaining the changes. "Al Leventhal has a wealth of experience both in brade and juvenile books and he's just the man we need to build our lists in those fields and to train a solid contingent of younger men."

Mr. Leventhal, who is 62 pany, one of the nation's years old, began his publishing career at Simon & Schuster in 1933. He rose to become director of sales and vice president. In 1958 he was named president of Golden Press, a subsidiary of the Western Publishing Com-pany, which he built into the world's largest publisher of books for children,